

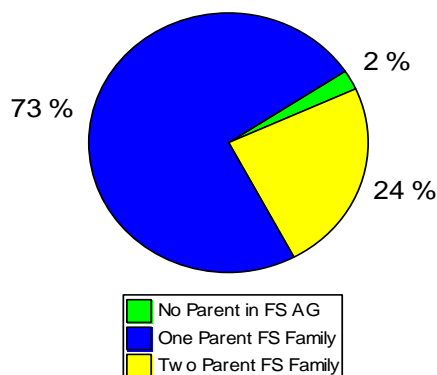
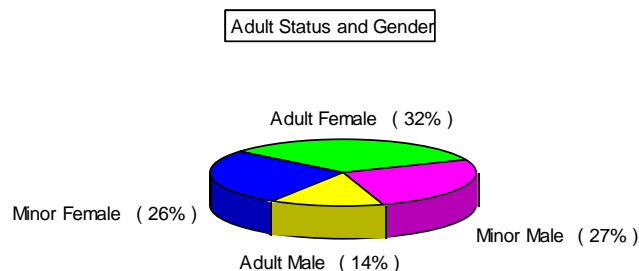
# Wisconsin Food Stamp Program at a Glance

All data is for (or as of) the month of August 2004<sup>1</sup>

Note: The August 2004 Program at Glance reflects a change in policy that may have an impact on statistics for the FSP. Beginning this month we close zero benefits cases; in the past these cases remained open and counted toward overall caseload numbers. We believe the statistics most likely to be affected include overall caseload and statistics related to the percentage of FSP recipients with earned income, since many of these cases previously open with zero benefits included earned income.

## Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

- **Poverty:** 6% of the 5.5 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.<sup>2</sup> On average from 1998 - 2000, 8.8% of the state population was at or below the federal poverty rate.<sup>3</sup>
- **Assistance Groups (AG's)/Individuals:** 132,313 Assistance groups are made up of 322,405 individuals. The AG's count decreased by 2,800 from the July figures. There is an average of 2.4 people in an AG.
- **Gender:** 58% of the recipients are female and 42% are male.
- **Adults/Minors:** 46% are adults while 54% are minors. 59% of AG's have minors in them.
- **Minors and Their Parents:** Of the AG's that contain minors, 73% have one parent in the AG, 24% have two parents, and 2% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological or adoptive parent.



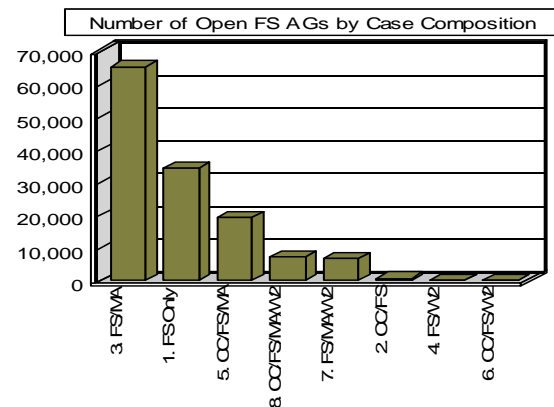
<sup>1</sup> Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

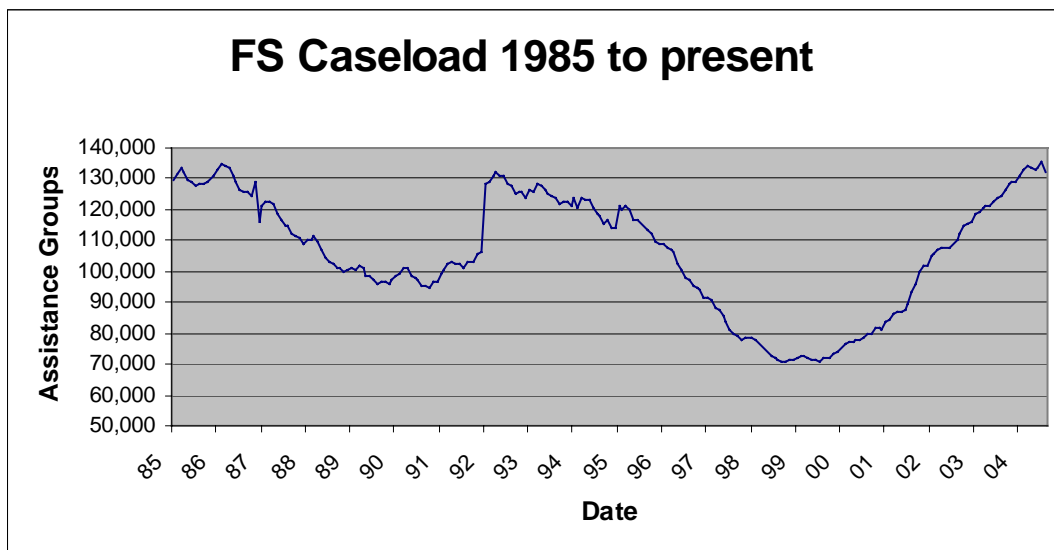
<sup>3</sup> Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

- **Parents That Are Minors:** 1,008 minors in 993 FS AG's are parents. A slightly lower number than last month and comprises 1/3 of 1 percent of the individuals that receive FS.
- **Case Composition:** The table and graph shows other types of CARES issued assistance that a FS AG receives.

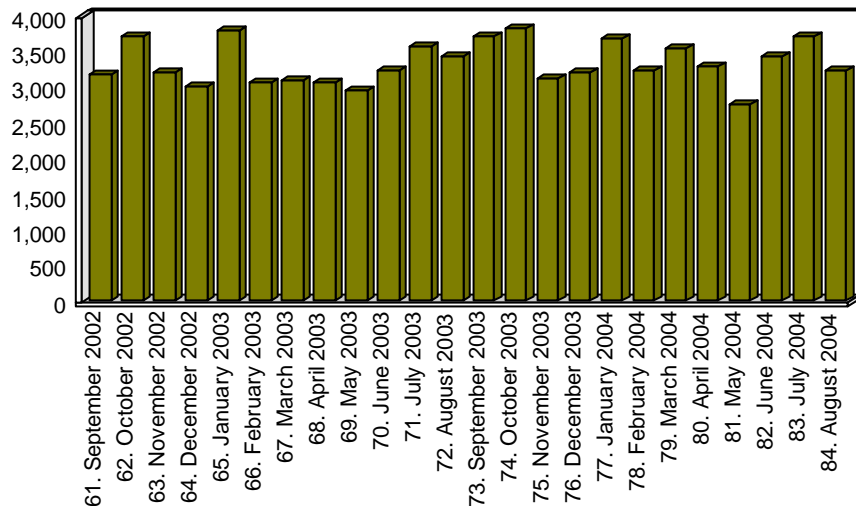
Prog Comb	
3. FS/MA	65,555
1. FS Only	34,132
5. CC/FS/MA	17,457
8. CC/FS/MA/W2	7,424
7. FS/MA/W2	6,893
2. CC/FS	500
4. FS/W2	83
6. CC/FS/W2	59



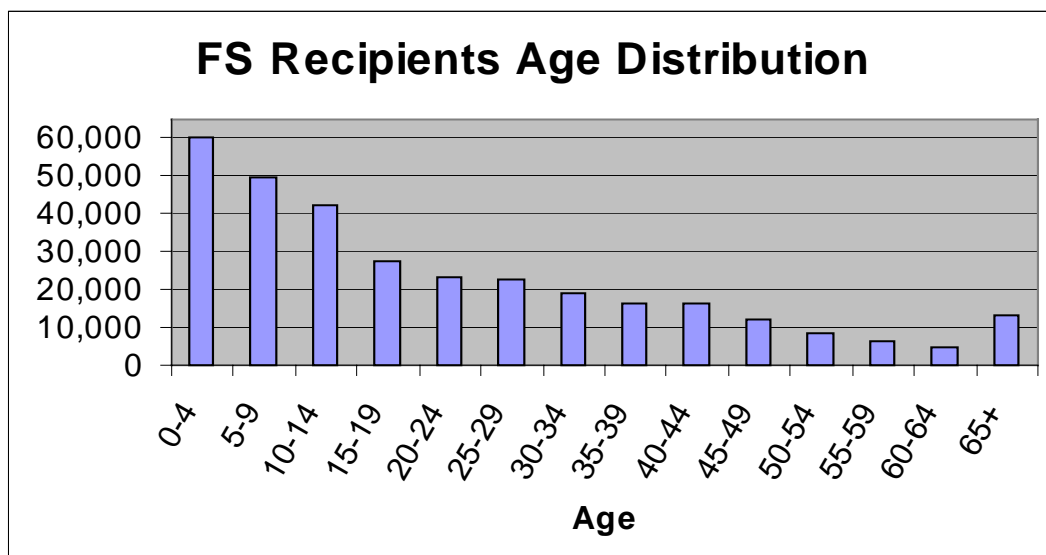
- **Historical Caseload Trend:** The statewide caseload had been trending steeply upwards since September of 1999, leveling off for a few months, then a significant drop this month. See **“Assistance Groups (AG's)/Individuals”** above.



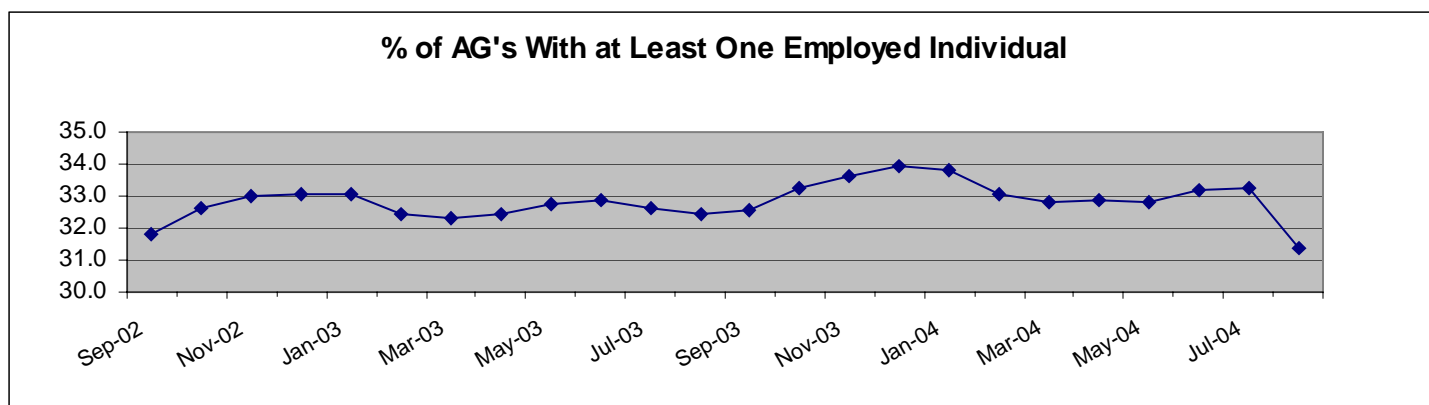
- First Time FS AG's:** This chart shows the number of first-time FS assistance groups over the last 2 years. Only AG's that have never received FS in Wisconsin before the month shown, appear in this chart. In August, 3,240 FS AG's received FS for the first time.



- Age Distribution:** The chart below shows the number of FS recipients by age, in 5 year increments. Children age 4 and under has the largest number for any five year grouping making up nearly 19% of recipients. Over 51% of the recipients are 16 and younger.



- **Elderly/Disabled:** 17% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 41% of AG's contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled. The average allotment for AG's that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member is up slightly at \$108. However, 29% of the EBD caseload is receiving an allotment of \$0 to \$10.
- **Work/Earnings:** 31.4% of the AG's have at least one person working. The average monthly earned income of those AG's' is \$991,<sup>4</sup> a substantial \$71 decrease from last month. 31.4% of adult FS recipients are employed, one point less than last month. Currently, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 4.8 %, up 1 tenth of a point from last month.<sup>5</sup>



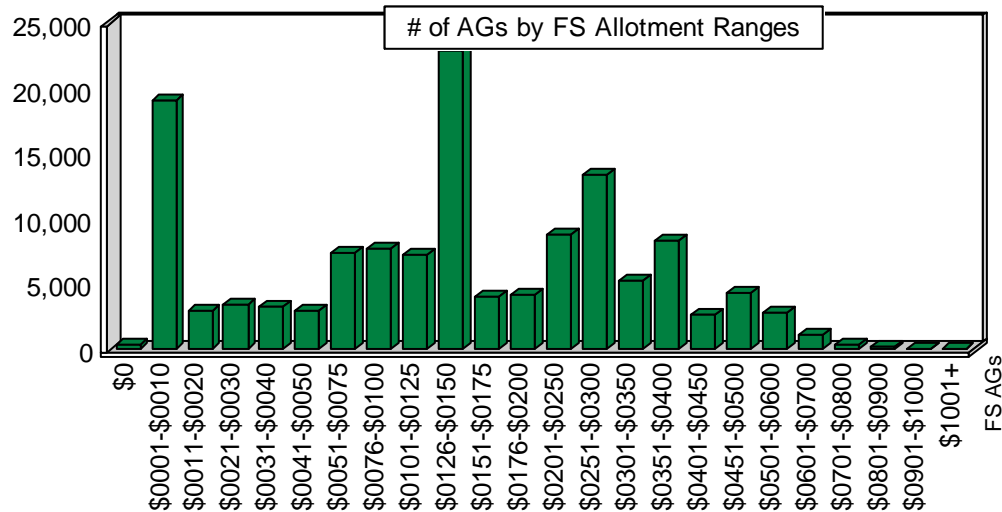
- **Working Families:** A "working family" is defined as a FS AG that contains at least one minor, at least one parent of a minor, and at least one employed recipient. This is an attempt to explore those FS recipients that have children and are working. Working families make up 25.9% of the statewide FS AG's, average 3.7 persons per AG, and average \$1,088 in earned income per month. Other stats are available below.

Parent in FS AG	FS AGs	Unduplicated FS Recipients	AG Earned Income Amt	Avg. Earned Income per AG	AG Unearned Income Amt	Avg. Unearned Income per AG	FS Allotment Amt - FTM	Avg. Allotment per AG
One Parent FS Family	23,427	73,736	\$23,142,102.81	\$987.84	\$4,396,582.89	\$187.67	\$4,341,570.00	\$185.32
Two Parent FS Family	10,842	51,402	\$14,145,479.82	\$1,304.69	\$2,026,161.10	\$186.88	\$2,884,658.00	\$266.06
<b>Sum:</b>	<b>34,269</b>	<b>125,138</b>	<b>\$37,287,582.63</b>		<b>\$6,422,743.99</b>	<b>Sum:</b>	<b>\$7,226,228.00</b>	

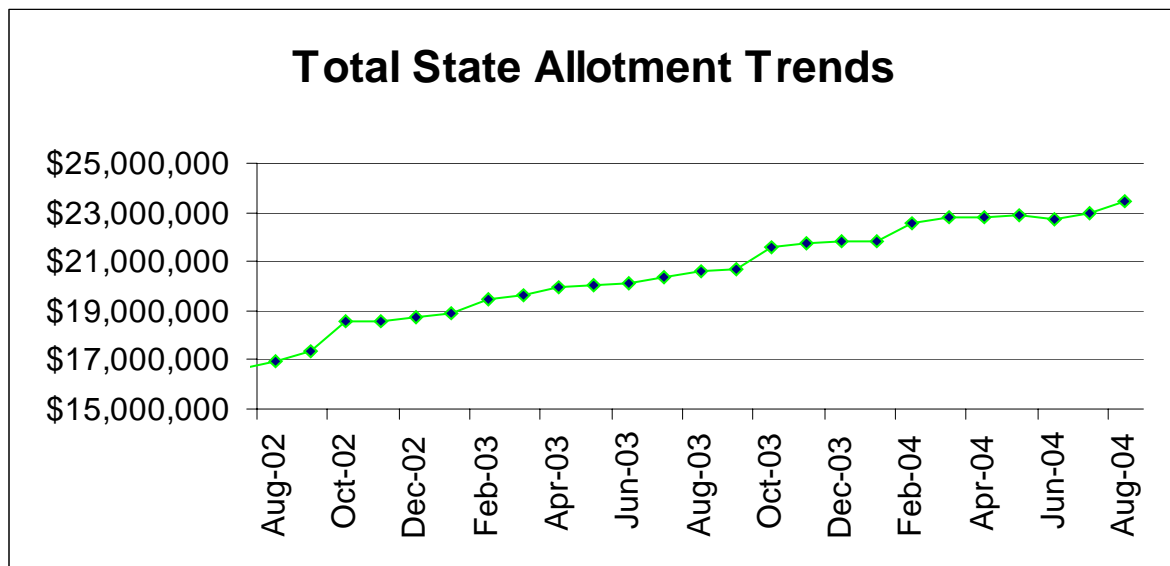
<sup>4</sup> This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility for the allotment amount.

<sup>5</sup> Source: DWD Labor Market Information at [http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/lmi/employ\\_civilianlaborForce.htm](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/lmi/employ_civilianlaborForce.htm)

- **Allotments:** A total of \$23.4 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$177.



- **Statewide FS Allotments:** The graph below shows the total dollars in FS allotments spent on all FS AG's statewide for the past two years. There has been an increase trend since June of 2002. The total has exceeded \$23 million.



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For other months' data, go to <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/foodstamps/fsataglace.htm>